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(CIA)

EAST LANSING, MICH.--THE PRESIDENT OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY SAID TODAY THE SCHOOL HIRED INTELLIGENCE SPECIALISTS FOR AN AID PROJECT TO VIET NAM BUT HAD NO IDEA THEY WERE AFFILIATED WITH THE CIA.

THE STATEMENT BY JOHN A. HANNAH APPEARED TO FLATLY CONTRADICT COMMENTS BY TWO MSU OFFICIALS WHO HEADED THE PROJECT, BOTH OF WHOM SAID THEY OPENLY BORROWED FIVE CIA MEN TO PROVIDE COUNTER INTELLIGENCE TRAINING FOR THE SOUTH VIET NAM GOVERNMENT OF THE LATE PRESIDENT NGO DINH DIEM.

HANNAH TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE THAT MSU, HIRED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO HELP SOUTH VIET NAM SET UP BETTER CIVIL POLICE AND CIVIL SERVICE PROGRAMS, SIGNED UP POLICE OFFICIALS IN VARIOUS SPECIALTIES TO HELP WITH THE PROGRAM.

"IN THE FIELD OF COUNTER SUBVERSION, THESE SPECIALISTS WERE NOT AVAILABLE FROM AMERICAN CIVIL POLICE ORGANIZATIONS BUT COULD BE RECRUITED ONLY FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES," HANNAH SAID.

"HAVING ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY IN THE ENTIRE CIVIL POLICE FIELD AS DEFINED BY THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT, WE EMPLOYED ON OUR STAFF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD A BACKGROUND IN TELLIGENCE WORK FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

"NONE OF THESE, AT ANY TIME OF EMPLOYMENT, WAS KNOWN BY THE UNIVERSITY NOR ITS REPRESENTATIVES TO HAVE AFFILIATIONS WITH THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY."

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